

## Message Text

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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4101  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
VOA MUNICH

UNCLAS LENINGRAD 00755

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STATE FOR EUR/SOV, MOSCOW FOR P&C, MUNICH FOR ECM

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJECT: NEW YORK PRO ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA IN SOVIET  
PREMIERE

1. LENINGRAD, MARCH 10 - A STANDING ROOM ONLY AUDIENCE  
IN THE LENINGRAD PHILHARMONIC'S BOL'SHOY ZAL GAVE THE  
NEW YORK PRO ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA A TEN MINUTE OVATION  
LAST NIGHT, AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ENSEMBLE'S PREMIERE  
PERFORMANCE IN THE SOVIET UNION. CONDUCTED BY RAFFAEL  
ADLER, THE PRO ARTE IS THE ONLY ALL STRING CHAMBER  
ORCHESTRA IN THE UNITED STATES. FOUNDED ONLY EIGHT YEARS  
AGO, MOST OF ITS MEMBERS ARE LESS THAN THIRTY-FIVE YEARS  
OLD. CO-CONCERTMASTER ROBERT MCDUFFIE, THE YOUNGEST AT  
NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE, BROUGHT THE HOUSE DOWN AT THE  
CONCLUSION OF LAST NIGHT'S CONCERT WITH HIS THROBBING SOLO  
IN BELA BARTOK'S "RUMANIAN DANCES."

2. EARLIER, THE ORCHESTRA PERFORMED JOHANN CHRISTIAN  
BACH'S "SYMPHONY IN A MAJOR," NORMAL DELLO JOIO'S  
"MEDITATIONS ON ECCLESIASTES" AND FELIX MENDELSSOHN'S  
SYMPHONY NO. 9 (LA SUISSE)." THE DELLO JOIO COMPOSITION,  
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WHICH WAS NEW TO MOST OF THOSE IN LAST NIGHT'S AUDIENCE,  
WON FOR ITS AUTHOR THE PULITZER PRIZE, AMERICA'S MOST  
COVETED AWARD IN THE FIELDS OF LITERATURE AND MUSIC, IN  
1957.

3. RESPONDING TO AN OVATION, WHICH, IN THE OPINION OF  
SOME OF THOSE PRESENT, HAS ONLY RARELY BEEN MATCHED IN

RECENT YEARS BY A LENINGRAD AUDIENCE, THE PRO ARTE  
PERFORMED TWO ENCORES: THE PRESTO MOVEMENT FROM MOZART'S  
DIVERTIMENTO FOR STRINGS IN D MAJOR AND A RAG BY THE

AMERICAN TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY BLACK COMPOSER SCOTT JOPLIN.  
THE SYNCOPATED RHYTHMS OF THE JOPLIN PIECE, SO UNEXPECTED  
FROM AN ENSEMBLE SUCH AS THE PRO ARTE, SET THE AUDIENCE TO  
SMILING AND SHAKING HEADS IN TIME TO THE MUSIC -- WHICH  
IN TURN PROMPTED THE ORCHESTRA TO REPEAT THE PIECE AS ITS  
THIRD AND FINAL ENCORE.

4. THE PRO ARTE RETURNS TO THE BOL'SHOY ZAL TONIGHT FOR  
A PROGRAM OF MUSIC BY WILHELM FRIEDMANN BACH, MEYER  
KUPFERMAN, FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN AND ASGER HAMERIK. ON  
SATURDAY IT WILL GIVE ITS FINAL LENINGRAD PERFORMANCE,  
THEN EMBARK FOR RIGA TO BEGIN A TOUR OF SEVENTEEN MORE  
CONCERTS IN EIGHT SOVIET CITIES. END TEXT. BUCHANAN

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